

No. XXIII.—A NEW COLOUR VARIETY OF THE COMMON GREEN WHIP-SNAKE (*DRYOPHIS MYCTERIZANS*).

Our Society has recently acquired a very interesting specimen of the Common green Whip-snake (*Dryophis mycterizans*) from Major H. Delmé-Radcliffe, collected in Shwebo, Upper Burma. The specimen is peculiar in the colouration of the belly which is bright rosy tint between the white lateral ventral lines. Otherwise the snake accords in colour, and lepidosis with typical specimens. I propose to call it variety *rhodogaster*. The ventrals are 191. *Subcaudals*? Tail imperfect. *Costals* 2 headslengths from head 15, midbody 15, 2 headslengths before vent 13. This latter is unusual, the rows usually coming to 11 at this situation, however I have had other specimens of variety *typica* from Burma numbering 13. In variety *typica* the belly is a light emerald green, and in the variety I have lately alluded to as *cinereoventer*, it is ashy grey.

F. WALL, MAJOR, I.M.S., C.M.Z.S.

DARJEELING, 20th July 1908.

No. XXIV.—FLYING SNAKES.

The following extract from my diary may be of interest in connection with Major Wall's interesting remarks *re* "flying snakes" published in the last Journal, Vol. XVIII, pp. 239—243.

"ETAWAH, 7th August 1903.—Visited the Fisher Forest Reserve rented by Messrs. Cooper, Allen & Co. of Cawnpore. . . . I found a young *Echis carinata*, a foot long, curled up into a figure of eight, and resting on the finest twigs at the extreme end of a babul branch, 5 feet from the ground. I killed him and skinned him. My orderly, who was with me, tells me the natives call it the *Urnawalla Sanp*, which signifies 'the flying snake.' He says "it can spring from tree to tree, and from a tree on to its quarry." The above mentioned orderly was an extremely intelligent man, and with quite an unusual 'shauq' for natural history. Unfortunately I was not aware at the time that snakes were credited with these springing powers, otherwise I would have tested them before killing this particular one, and would have questioned the man more closely. As it was, his information came too late for practical demonstration, and was then regarded by me as merely "folk-lore"!

ARUNDEL BEGBIE, Major,
8th Rajputs.

LUCKNOW, 7th May 1908.

No. XXV.—ABNORMAL SCALES IN THE SNAKES *ZAMENIS MUCOSUS* AND *DIPSADOMORPHUS TRIGONATUS*.

In his article on the Common Indian Snakes (Vol. XVII, No. 2, page 262) Major F. Wall says about *Zamenis mucosus* that it has 3 loreals normally.